

Offwell C of E Primary School

Our Core Values: Honesty, Loyalty, Caring, Sharing and Forgiveness.



Dear Friends and Families of Offwell,

Highlight of the Week:

Ash: Making lots of fireworks using different tools including painting, sticking, cutting, etc

Willow: Attending the royal garden party and having a visit by the Queen's representative; Her Majesty Mrs Legg!

Beech: Testing the friction of different materials on a slide.

Oak: Learning new skills in hockey including how to hold the stick correctly.

Welcome back! I hope you are all well and rested and ready for this half term. Please note, while most of the nation has entered lockdown, so far, we are able to continue as usual. Our approach, with regard to ensuring the safety of our school community, has been to adopt the safest route, putting extra safeguards in place where possible, as this ultimately allows us to teach and the children to learn with the minimum of disruption. If we keep asking ourselves: what is the most I can do to protect others, rather than what is the most we can get away with, we should avoid being too badly affected.

If the guidance changes what we do in school, I will inform you, as always. Currently, we can still offer Breakfast and After School Clubs and music lessons, distanced as usual, and while we have postponed the school photographs (just too many overlapping bubbles!), we are hopeful of finding an alternative way to take class photographs. Here is a link to the new restrictions:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november?priority-taxon=774cee22-d896-44c1-a611-e3109cce8eae>

I ask you to continue to respect social distancing at our gates, and beyond them. Given the new Lockdown, children and families can no longer mix, unless two families have established a support bubble for childcare (or are a single parent). You are only allowed to be in one Bubble. This means that children cannot play together after school, aside from these specific conditions. We can all feel restricted and frustrated, and we all need to find the best way through the next four weeks for our families, but it is the virus we must all join together to defeat, rather than the rules.

As mentioned before half term, we have been trialling **Lexia Core 5**. This has already helped with phonics, spelling, reading comprehension and fluency at every level. DoodleMaths is another programme we aim to invest in. The cost of such online resources is ongoing and in these challenging times, we will be in touch to ask you for your opinion and support, at whatever level.

URAFIKI – As mentioned, last half term, Oscar and Ashley, who live in Yala, Kenya, continue to need our support. If you want evidence that URAFIKI is now really making a difference, **please read more on our Google Classroom Learning Platform – Whole School Page**. You will also find some ideas of how you could donate based on the cost of everyday items that you might normally buy- pictures of these, with collection boxes, will be in each class.



Friday, 6th November 2020

Stars of the Week:

R – Poppy Yr 1 – Wilfred
Yr 2 – Oliver S Yr 3 – Genevieve
Yr 4 – Maisie Yr 5 – Isla
Yr 6 – Oliver

Next Week:

Monday: WASP, Music lessons, Parents' Evening Zoom Meetings
Tuesday: WASP, Parents' Evening Zoom Meetings
Wednesday: WASP, Parents' Evening Zoom Meetings
Thursday: WASP, Parents' Evening Zoom Meetings
Friday: Celebration Collective Worship – 9.10 Google Meet
Login to Google with your child's login details and then select 'Meet' (not 'Classroom'). The code is a 6 figure date eg next week's will be 131120. The Powerpoint for the assembly is always put on the main Google Classroom with links to videos, etc
Children in Need – Wear something spotty!

Weekly House Points:

Drake: 59 Raleigh: 55
Well done Drake

Collective Worship:

Theme for next week:
Being a good neighbour.



Willow Class – Art
Wilfred – Picasso
Tilly P-Afro Futurist
Aria -Freda Kahlo

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Parents' Meetings

All parents/carers should have received a Zoom invitation by email for your child's Parents' Meeting unless you have requested a phone call. If you have not received this, or you can foresee problems with making this meeting, please let us know.

Times of Hardship

In these unprecedented times, some families are struggling financially but there are people and organisations that can help.

Operation Rudolf is one such organisation. If you feel you can donate gifts, etc to them please email operationrudolph@gmail.com Further details are being sent electronically. Also, if you need their support please complete the form.

East Devon District Hardship Fund - Help is available. If you know someone who is worrying about money and how to pay for basic household essentials, please encourage them to apply for extra assistance through funding made available by Devon County Council via your District Council's hardship fund. To find out more about what support is available in Devon, including how to access local financial support, healthy start vouchers and free school meals, where to find foodbanks and community larders, free meals during the school holidays and what to do if you're on a low income and need to self-isolate, [please visit Devon County Council's website](#).



PTFA

There will be a **Special PTFA meeting** on Monday 7th December to elect a new treasurer. This will be followed by a normal business meeting. Zoom access codes will be given nearer the time.

Quiz Night – Zoom – Friday, 20th November – 7pm

Please see separate poster for further details.

PTFA fundraising – PLEASE SIGN UP BEFORE CHRISTMAS - it won't cost you a penny, but could bring in much needed money! As we shared in our last newsletter, we are a good cause! So please, use Ebay, to upcycle and donate through purchases, or go to Amazon, Boots, John Lewis, M&S, Argos, as well as brands like Notonthehighstreet and Green People. In all, find over 4000 shops providing goods such as food, fashion, cosmetics, gifts, electrical goods, household items and services such as insurance on <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>

Poppies

Poppies will be on sale in school from Monday of next week. If you would like to buy a poppy, please send your child in with some money!

Remembrance – usually, the whole school would attend the village service outside the school gates on 11th November. Obviously, this is not possible this year. Oak Class have been learning about World War II and will be remembering within their classroom.

Children in Need

The School Council has decided that children will be invited to wear something spotty on Friday, 13th November for Children in Need. A suggested donation of £1 should be sent in with your child.

Drake Non Uniform Day

We had previously advised you that Drake would be awarded a non-uniform day on Friday, 13th November but as this is now a 'spotty' day for everyone, the non-uniform day has been brought forward to **Thursday**.

Offwell Play Park

Although the children can't play together away from school at the moment the fundraising continues for Offwell's new play park.

Can you help Damien Richards raise £5000 to Help Fund a New Play Park.? Please donate to their JustGiving Crowdfunding Page: https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/damien-richards-3?utm_id=2&utm_term=28G3Gnq4k

They only need a few thousand now. The play park is ready to deliver, just have to wait for weather to improve so site can be levelled and top soil spread. A little glimmer of hope in this troubled time. Thanks for your support.

School Admissions Policy consultation 2022

The annual consultation is underway from today and will run until 8 January at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements This is for the LA's co-ordination schemes and individual school policies for 2022.

Proposed policies are available at <http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy>

Lorna Legg

'Be healthy in body and strong in spirit and may all go well with you...'